

B17
cont. detecting the first and second ink cartridges 500 and 600 are attached, when the operator forgets about placing the black ink cartridge 600, he or she can be informed of the fact.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 52, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B18 The partition plate placed between the ink bags is mounted in a slidable state relative to the cartridge case, and is sandwiched between the case main body and the case lid forming the cartridge case, whereby the installation position of the partition plate is defined. Therefore, the partition plate can be easily installed and removed, whereby it is easy to disassemble and assemble the ink cartridge when the ink cartridge is recycled, and the like.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 54, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B19 Therefore, the amount of ink remaining when the ink end is detected can be reduced, so that the amount of wasted ink can be decreased. Since the detection plate can be moved in connection with the deformation of the ink bag as the amount of ink remaining decreases, ink end detection with good accuracy can be accomplished.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

B20
Sub
E1

23. (Amended) The ink cartridge as claimed in claim 22, wherein the first case comprises a bottom plate portion and a side plate portion, the first case having an opening on a top thereof for housing the first and second ink bags, wherein the second case covers the opening of the first case.

B21
Sub
E1

25. (Amended) The ink cartridge as claimed in claim 24, wherein the partition plate is detachable in a direction substantially perpendicular to the bottom plate portion along the side plate portion, and wherein each of the first case and the second case comprises a partition plate clamp face such that the partition plate is clamped by the partition plate clamp face of the first case and the partition plate clamp face of the second case for defining the position of the partition plate.

B22
Sub
E1

27. (Amended) The ink cartridge as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of the first case and the second case comprises an ink outlet clamp face such that the ink outlets are clamped by the ink outlet clamp faces for defining the positions of the ink outlets, and wherein at least one of the ink outlet clamp faces is elastically displaceable.

B23

35. (Amended) The ink cartridge as claimed in claim 34, wherein the first ink cartridge comprises a side portion with a protection guide surrounding the first detection projection.

B24
Sub
C12

40. (Amended) An ink cartridge comprising:
a plurality of ink cartridges including a first ink cartridge for housing a first ink bag storing first ink, and a second ink cartridge for housing a second ink bag storing second ink of a different color than the first ink, the ink cartridges being detachably

Sub C1 cont.
joined by a joint mechanism, wherein the joint mechanism comprises at least one insertion projection engageable with a corresponding at least one insertion hole.

Sub E1
41. (Amended) An ink jet printer comprising:

B24 cont.
a primary ink cartridge having a plurality of secondary ink cartridges including at least a first ink cartridge for housing a first ink bag storing first ink, and a second ink cartridge for housing a second ink bag storing second ink of a different color than the first ink, wherein one of said first and second ink cartridges further includes a waste-ink holding member for storing waste ink poured therein from the outside thereof, the plurality of secondary ink cartridges being formed in one piece by a joint mechanism for detachably joining the plurality of secondary ink cartridges;

a placement section in which said primary ink cartridge detachably is placed; and

an ink jet head comprising a plurality of ink nozzle groups including a first ink nozzle group for ejecting the ink in the first ink bag of said primary ink cartridge placed in said placement section, and a second ink nozzle group for ejecting the ink in the second ink bag of said primary ink cartridge placed in said placement section,

wherein the waste-ink holding member is placed in one of the first ink cartridge and the second ink cartridge having the smallest value resulting from dividing a volume of ink in each of the first and second ink bags by the number of nozzles of the ink nozzle group corresponding to the respective ink bag.